

To: Arcaute, Francisco[Arcaute.Francisco@epa.gov]
From: Alan.R.Haraf@uscg.mil
Sent: Sat 3/29/2014 12:33:31 AM
Subject: FW: UPDATE 3: Weather conditions limit active cleanup operations

Cisco: below is a release we went out with late this afternoon. I got a few requests for updates so we put this together.

Al

Sent with Good (www.good.com)

-----Original Message-----

From: Ninth Coast Guard District External Affairs Office [D9PublicAffairs@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 28, 2014 05:57 PM Eastern Standard Time
To: Haraf, Alan R PAC
Subject: UPDATE 3: Weather conditions limit active cleanup operations

News Release

UPDATE 3: Weather conditions limit active cleanup operations

WHITING, Ind. - Weather conditions and safety concerns prohibited planned submerged surveying today near the BP Whiting Refinery, site of an oil discharge earlier [this week](#).

An eight-member cleanup assessment team made up of members from the Coast Guard, the Environmental Protection Agency and BP contractors, was scheduled to conduct a comprehensive survey along the path of discharge in search of potentially submerged oil. However, high winds and waves created unsafe conditions for personnel and made taking underwater samples by boat too hazardous.

The weather conditions also prevented other members of the team from taking underwater samples closer to shore. Surveying is expected to resume on Sunday.

Earlier today, the assessment team walked the shoreline area immediately northwest of the refinery and found no oil contamination.

Saturday, the Coast Guard's Federal On-scene Coordinator representative will be assisting the BP shoreline cleanup crew with identification and removal of the mixture of oiled pebbles, which was found on Thursday afternoon.

Sunday, clean up operations will continue along with a formal survey by the assessment team on the rocky shoreline on the southeast end of the cove. If weather conditions permit, the submerged

oil survey will be conducted.

“Although today’s weather conditions limited active cleanup operations, BP continues to ensure personnel in the field are following the assessment team's recommended cleanup techniques along the affected rocky shoreline," said Petty Officer 1st Class Jeremy Thomas, the Coast Guard Federal On-scene Coordinator representative and assessment team member.

“This response has progressed to a point that allows us to proactively engage the cleanup crew and assist them with identification of the oil pebble mixtures identified by the team. Following the team's survey yesterday, we were happy to see the sandy beach area free of oil and no sheen on the cove. We have, however, recommended continual monitoring of the beach area.”

For information about the Coast Guard response efforts, contact Chief Petty Officer Alan Haraf at [216-389-0420](tel:216-389-0420).

For information about EPA's response, contact Francisco Arcaute, public affairs officer, at [312-886-7613](tel:312-886-7613).

For information relating to the discharge and recovery operations, contact the BP's press officer at [219-473-2020](tel:219-473-2020).

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Date: Mar 28, 2014

Ninth Coast Guard District

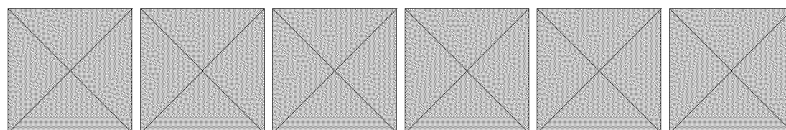
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